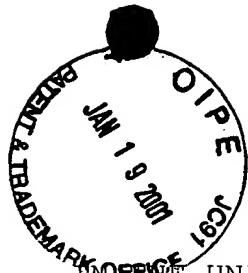


1871-129
EE



#81681646
1/23/01
RECEIVED
JAN 22 2001
TECH CENTER 1600/2300

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
ROGER J. DALY ET AL.)
Serial No. 09/509,196) Examiner: O. Chernyshev
Filed: March 23, 2000) Group Art Unit: 1646
For: A POTENTIAL EFFECTOR)
FOR THE GRB7 FAMILY)
OF SIGNALLING PROTEINS)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated December 20, 2000, a restriction requirement was issued in connection with the above-referenced patent application. Specifically, the examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions:

Group I: claims 1-7, drawn to polynucleotides, host cells and methods of making a protein, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1;

Group II: claims 8-10, drawn to a polypeptide, classified in class 530, subclass 350;

Group III: claims 11 and 16, drawn to antibodies, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1;

Group IV: claims 14 and 17, drawn to methods of detecting a protein, classified in class 436, subclass 501; and

Group V: claims 12, 13, 15 and 18, drawn to oligonucleotide probes and methods of detection of mRNA, classified in class 536, subclass 24.3.

Applicant hereby elects the claims of Group I with traverse for initial prosecution on the merits. Specifically, Applicants respectfully request that the claims of Group V (claims 12, 13, 15 and 18) be examined with the claims of Group I (claims 1-7). The focus of the claims of the two groups is polynucleotide sequences which have a relation to one another and examining the two sets of claims together would not place an undue burden on the examiner. For example, claim 1 is directed to an isolated polynucleotide molecule which comprises a nucleotide sequence having at least 75% sequence identity to a given sequence. Claims 2-4 are similar but require increasing sequence identity to the given sequence. Claim 12 is directed to an oligonucleotide probe comprising a nucleotide sequence that selectively hybridizes to the polynucleotide molecule of any of claim 1, 2, 3 or 4. The examiner has acknowledged the

relationship in the Restriction Requirement, and Applicants request that the claims of the two groups be examined together.

Respectfully submitted,

By Barbara G. Ernst
Barbara G. Ernst
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 30,377
ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, p.c.
Suite 701-E, 555 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (202) 783-6040